

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Deputy Chief, FBID

DATE: 21 May 1954

FROM : Chief Monitor, Mediterranean Bureau

SUBJECT: Transfer of Coverage from London to Medbureau

In light of BBC budgetary problems connected with support of the Stockholm operation, and considering that one solution to such difficulties might be assumption by Medbureau of some present London commitments, the following possibilities are suggested:

1. Yugoslavia: Medbureau could assume complete responsibility for the Belgrade Home Service without T/O increase and at the cost of some reduction in the present sample of Yugoslav Regional output. Present strength of three monitors allows morning and evening monitoring throughout the week, forestalling the old News Bureau reservation about prompt service.

BBC Serb strength seems excessive in any event, and it might be possible to expect a substantial cut in monitors at Caversham if the transfer is effected.

Any suggestion that Home Service should not be monitored at one place and TANYUG at another should not be accepted, in my opinion. TANYUG clearly groups with the Foreign Services in editing and presentation, and the longstanding practice of equating it with Home Service material is considered unsound.

2. Turkey: Medbureau could assume the entire Turkish Home Service without T/O increase and with only mild repercussions on Arabic and Turkic language monitoring.

3. Rumania: Medbureau could assume complete responsibility for the Rumanian Home Service with the minimum addition of one and recommended addition of two Rumanian monitors. Moldavian and Hungarian commitments and the fact that one Rumanian monitor has additional responsibilities as a Unit Chief would suggest the advisability of two new monitors.

4. Bulgaria: Medbureau has full responsibility for the Bulgarian Home Service. BBC continues, however, to monitor a number of these casts. Mr. Landon is on record as having no further reservations on promptness of filing for News Bureau purposes. BBC could drop these programs.

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Action based on 1, 2, and 3 above would obviously lead to increased wordage on the Kyrenia-London circuit. It is suggested that this might be offset by mailing directly from Nicosia material which is presently wire-filed to London for mailing from there. One copy would be mailed to BBC and the other to Washington.